

William Preston to George Washington, January 27, 1775, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM COLONEL WILLIAM PRESTON.

Jany 27th 1775

DEAR SIR

Your Letter of the 26th. Decr. came to Hand yesterday. I have inclosed a Certificate of the Survey made by Mr. Floyd at the Mouth of Cole River,¹ But as the Members for this County set off two Days ago I shall not have an Opportunity of Sending this till Colo. Fleming goes down which I hear will be some time in February. I understand that worthy Gentleman intends to make Application to Your House for some Yearly Allowance from the Country for his being disabled in its Service; I would fain hope the same Notice will be taken of his Merit that has been to many other Officers who were Wounded in the Service of the Country on former Occasions.

There is no doubt but the Expençe of the late Expedition, & the forces employed for the Protection of the Frontiers will be very great. But as the Frontiers were in a great Measure defended & the Enemy Subdued there is reason to hope not only the Peace will be lasting, but that the Expençe will be paid with the greater Cheerfulness; and the rather as the Men engaged in the Service with uncommon Ardour, depending wholly on the Publick Faith, as there was no Money in hand for defraying any part of the Charge or given as encouragement to men to enlist. The former well known Justice and Generosity

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of the Assembly, together with the Safety of the Country from our old inveterate Enemies appeared to me to be the only Motives which induc'd Men to engage so readily in the Service.

I am Dr sir with great Esteem your most Obedt Servt WM. PRESTON

1 Survey'd for Col. George Washington Assignee of Charles Myn Thurston a Lieutenant in the Virginia Regiment under the Command of Col. Byrd, By Virtue of the Governors Warrant, and agreeable to the Royal Proclamation of 1763. 2,000 acres of Land in Fincastle County, and bounded as follows. Viz. Beginning at a Sycamore at the mouth of a Draught on the bank of Cole River, marked GW. and running down the sveral Courses thereof and binding thereon 588 poles to its Junction with the Great Kanhawa, and up the several courses thereof and binding thereon 1400 poles to a Sycamore at the mouth of a small draught marked GW. then leaving the River S45°. W. 170 po. to the Hill side and along the same 660 poles to the beginning. WM. PRESTON S. F. C. 18th. Apl. 1774